

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

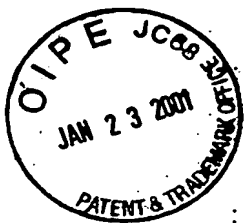
In re application of:

Peter Schubert et al.

Serial No.: 09/372,036

Filed: August 11, 1999

For: PROCESSES AND AGENTS FOR DETECTING LISTERIAS



Group Art Unit: 1645

Examiner: Baskar, P.

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REPLY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Reply is responsive to the Restriction requirement mailed Dec. 5, 2000.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 3-10 and 15-38, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 39-58 as follows:

N --39. An isolated peptide from the p60 protein of *Listeria monocytogenes*, selected from formulae (IVa) or (IVd)

X<sup>3</sup>ProValAlaProThrGlnX<sup>4</sup> (IVa) (SEQ ID NO:17)

X<sup>3</sup>GlnGlnThrAlaProLysAlaProThrX<sup>4</sup> (IVd) (SEQ ID NO:20)

wherein

X<sup>3</sup> and X<sup>4</sup> are each, independently, hydrogen or 1-7 additional amino acids.

N 40. A peptide of claim 39, selected from SEQ ID NOs: 26, 29, 30 or 31.

N 41. An immunogenic conjugate which comprises a peptide of claim 39.

Sub C<sup>2</sup> 42. An isolated antibody which specifically binds to the p60 protein from pathogenic listeria, wherein said antibody binds an epitope from the peptide, SEQ ID NO: 26, 29, 30 or 31.

43. An isolated antibody which can be prepared by immunizing an experimental animal with the peptide, SEQ ID NO: 17, 20, 26, 29, 30 or 31, or with an immunogenic